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MICHAEL JOSEPH

I. S. O. PLAYFAIR and C. J. C. MOLONY with F. C. FLYNN and T. P. GLAVIE: *The Mediterranean and Middle East, Volume IV. History of the Second World War*. 560pp. H.M.S.O.: £4 10s.

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by Rommel. It is interesting to note, however, that the latter altered these dispositions and ordered a concentration of his German armoured units within twenty-four hours of his return. On the subject of British dispositions, this account modifies General Montgomery's claim that he insisted on divisions fighting as divisions—this ended the employment of brigade groups—by pointing out the numerous occasions on which this principle was ignored. In *Supercharge*, for example, the second main phase of the battle, a brigade was detached from each of two different British divisions and put under command of the New Zealand Division as was, later, a brigade from 4th Indian Division. This was the famous 5th Indian Brigade and its connexion with the New Zealand division seems to have been very tenuous; in fact it was really operating as an independent Brigade Group. History now reveals that its intervention on the morning of November 4 was not so decisive as some have thought. This is a certain loss to the symmetry of history, since it had fought in the first desert victory at Sidi Barrani; but the hard fact appears to be that its blow fell on an enemy already withdrawing.

Withdrawal is the key word for the rest of the story until the Eighth Army arrives at Enfidaville in Tunisia and there is nowhere left for the enemy to withdraw to. Whatever his faults, in the attack Rommel was certainly a master of retreat. He decided to start on November 2, D+9, banking upon the hope that the British would follow up hesitantly, but pessimistically reporting to OKW that he expected the gradual destruction of his army. The next day, when the retreat had already started, he was discerned to receive orders from Hitler and Mussolini to stand fast; however, he managed to get around them and the incident is rightly described as illustrating "the inefficiency of the Axis arrangements for the higher direction of the war". The main result was to ruin any slight chance there might have been of getting away some of the Italian non-motorized divisions. With what was left of his Germans, little enough of them indeed after their resolute and costly fight, he

withdrew down the main road leaving Eighth Army looking like Dagobert, glad to be rid of a knife, or like his modern equivalent seeing home a drunk whom he does not want to arrest. The tactful authors admit there will be much argument whether they could have captured or destroyed more than they did. A study of the anti-climax which followed the heroic battle of Alamain may make many readers incline to accept Rommel's view. "The British command continued to observe its usual caution and showed little evidence of ability to make resolute decisions".

General Lumsden, commanding 10th Corps, was capable of resolute decisions, as befitted a descendant of Lumsden of the Guides, but his proposal for a second Beida Fenn was vetoed by the Army Commander. As a result the encounters between Alamain and Southern Tunisia, though written up stirring in Lord Montgomery's *Memoirs* as the battles of Agheila, Buerat and Tarhuna-Homs, were all fought by Rommel, who had already decided to evacuate Libya, or purely delaying actions from which he managed to extract his forces without significant loss. During this period the greatest achievements on the British side are to be put to the credit of Brian Robertson, Eighth Army's head of administration. It is an example of the inequity of history that it is so difficult, and really impossible in a review, to give the due measure of space to these remarkable triumphs of organization. This volume shows how, building on a firm basis of tried experience, the administrative services kept the fighting men supplied even in that desert which Rommel's chief of staff had called a quarter-master's hell.

The reason why the Axis forces saw themselves compelled to withdraw out of both Egypt and Libya was not merely their defeat at Alamain—they had been defeated as heavily before—but the danger to their rear represented by the Anglo-American landings in French North Africa. The strategic basis of this operation, code name *Torch*, is touched on only briefly. Its principal raison d'être was the deci-

sion that a cross-Channel invasion was impossible in 1942, probably also in 1943. There were of course positive advantages as well, such as the clearing of a way through the Mediterranean to the Far East and denying the African continent to the enemy. Tactically the plan was a mixture of dash and caution. The ultimate object was to seize Tunis and Bizerta, and plainly it would be best to forestall the Axis there; but because the Americans were insistent that the whole force should not be committed inside the Mediterranean the most easterly point of landing had to be Algiers, live hundred miles short. It was never likely that the British First Army would be able to cover this distance before the Axis could build up preponderant strength in the Tunisian tip from their nearby Italian bases, but General Anderson, to whom the authors consistently render justice, made a most resolute effort. The original Army Commander designate, General Montgomery, might perhaps have decided against pushing forward so boldly with such inadequate forces; to judge from other campaigns he might have been expected to give greater importance to considerations of security. At any rate General Anderson succeeded in seizing Medjez el Bab, the key to the Tunisian plain, before the winter stalemate set in in northern Tunisia.

The political problems involved in the invasion are dealt with in a brief but decisive and convincing manner. The original appreciation was that French resistance might be serious and probably long-drawn-out, with the possibility of guerrilla warfare and civil resistance. In an attempt to reduce the danger General Giraud was brought in from France, since the State Department maintained their hostility to de Gaulle. Giraud proved a poor investment. He began by demanding the Supreme Command (if given it, he told Eisenhower, he would divert the invasion from North Africa to southern France) and proved to carry no weight in Algiers. More serious still, or so it appeared, was the accidental presence there of Admiral Darlan, Pétain's

deputy, which "altered dramatically, and so far as could be judged, greatly for the worse, the chances of French collaboration with the approaching Allied expedition". But equally dramatic was the volte-face by which he put himself at General Eisenhower's disposal and persuaded all the other French commanders to follow his example. It is ironic to recall the high-minded claimant that followed in Washington and London. Even Churchill admitted that "it raised issues of a moral and sentimental character of cardinal importance". At this distance of time there will be few left who will disagree with the authors' verdict: "It happened, then, that this embattled French Admiral, politician and anglophobe, came to make a unique contribution to the Allied cause. There can be little doubt that, at this time of great confusion of thought and heart-searching throughout French North Africa, Darlan alone possessed the authority which almost all could recognize with a sense of legitimate relief. Without him, internal conflict might easily have produced widespread chaos. His fortuitous presence in Algeria, far from being the calamity it appeared, turned out to be for the Allies the best thing that could have happened."

At the Casablanca Conference in January, 1943, no uneasy attempt was made to bring together Giraud, who had succeeded Darlan as High Commissioner in North Africa, and de Gaulle. The policy of Unconditional Surrender was proclaimed. Churchill flew on to Adana to pursue his perennially frustrated will-of-the-wisp of bringing Turkey into the war. Of more immediate concern to this history is the reorganization of command whereby an Army Group headquarters, under General Alexander, was set up to take command of the two armies, the British First and Eighth, with the former of which were rather loosely associated the U.S. II and French XIX Corps. At about the same time the Axis also formed an Army Group under Rommel, to command the German Fifth Army in northern Tunisia and the Italian First Army under General Messe, who took over the former German-Italian Panzerarmee Afrika, Rommel's old command, in southern Tunisia. It was good for the Allies that a strong hand should seize the reins, for when General Alexander arrived he found a most serious situation on the First Army's right flank.

The next three major battles, however, really were won by Eighth Army. The first was the decisive victory of Medenine in which an attempted spoiling attack was beaten off with heavy losses and no gain whatever. Medenine was Rommel's last battle in Africa: he handed over the Army Group to von Arnim. The second, Mareth, comes out in the book as a clumsily handled affair. The original plan was a failure; the enemy's defences in the Mareth line proper were too strong to be forced. The subsidiary flanking manoeuvre by the New Zealand Corps was therefore reinforced, but the main force doing so—Montgomery's second Corps Headquarters without details—caused so much confusion and was of time that the operation failed to capture any significant numbers of enemy; Messe achieved much greater speed and decision both in retreating the threatened sector and in making a fast get-away. The authors after praising many feats of heroism and giving full credit to the brilliant Air Vice-Marshal Broadhurst's "blitz", ruefully but accurately conclude that the Eighth Army "had produced the quality of being too pugilistic call 'good finishers'".

The third battle, the fourth of the Wadi Akarit position, which was Eighth Army's last serious encounter in Africa, is outstandingly well narrated, assisted by the usual de maps and a good photograph. It was a disappointing one, though, though began brilliantly. There is some real evidence that the authors reach a special partially, a thoroughly reasonable one, for 4th Indian Division. In this case it is justified by results, for the plan to seize the mountainous feature of Gebel Tattassa was made by General Tukor, its commander, and its execution by the division was faultless. By early morning of April 6 it was Tukor's opinion and the authors, though admitting that there is some conflict of evidence, are plainly disposed to accept it as a resolute exploitation of the opportunity which was missed. The Eighth Army commander ordered to lay on a self-paced attack with artillery of two corps and so a "blitz" on the piece of ground now on which the enemy had already been fully retreated. In fact they had a good stout that Eighth Army's ponderous pursuit did not make it until the evening of the 7th the Eighth Army had already established a tradition of being prodigal of resources; the unfortunate part of the tradition was to be also prodigal of time.

The Axis thankfully accepted gifts of time which their slow-moving opponents made them but by middle of April they had been run out of space. Cramped in the north-eastern tip of Tunisia, resembled the garrison of a beleaguered fortress. "It was a large garrison of a quarter of a million men, even though its wings were hampered by allied sea and air action. The ground held was a good strong; for instance it stood up to the pressure of the 25th February. It was clear that our pressure had caused Rommel to break off his attacks against the Americans". The practice of the official historians, which follows the excellent precedent of that great military historian, Arrian, is to pass over in silence, in correct versions, containing themselves with giving the facts. They do not, for instance, comment on the odd choice of words to describe Alexander's signal, which would seem to have been intended to suggest that Alexander was not Montgomery's superior but a coordinate commander in another part of the field; they merely state that Alexander ordered Montgomery on the 23rd (the order was cancelled on the 23rd) to create as strong a threat as possible and add that the latter was unable to do anything forceful at once. By the 25th, they go on, some light elements had pushed forward but in strength were insufficient to over-

tute any kind of threat. Finally, the clinching fact that destroys a legend, they record that Rommel's Kesselring (the German Supreme Commander in the Mediterranean) deterred by the rebuff at Thala, delayed issued orders to break out of the 22nd. The Axis withdrawal began at once, before the Eighth Army had had time to move a finger.

The Official History covers all three services and it is most unfair to a review to concentrate in this way on the fortunes of the Army. The R.A.F. in the Middle East reached heights of courage, dash and administrative competence never before equalled and perhaps never since surpassed. So much can be said; but for the demonstration the reader must be referred to the book, since nothing shorter will serve. Air support for First Army, on the other hand, was badly organized—obsolete by Desert standards. The authors

comment that the R.A.F. could have had the proper advice for the asking: that the commanders in North Africa did not ask reflects the view current in Britain that there was nothing to learn from the country-cousins in the Middle East. The Royal Navy's part in the narrative is largely confined to the incessant landings with which *Torch* began, an important rehearsal, since every allied offensive from then on had necessarily to open with a landing.

It is not the practice of the official historians to descend on personalities. Any portraits that may appear are drawn very much by inference. Oddly enough, the one that sticks out most is that of Kesselring with his strange mixture of blarney and optimism, his military competence and his political manoeuvring. Rommel appears throughout as ailing, gloomy and despairing; he thanks fully profits from his opponents' mistakes but his superiors is steadfast only in insisting on withdrawal. On the Allied side

came into contact with most of the leading figures, from Rommel down to the lesser-known characters who come to life in these pages and who will awaken memories for those British officers who were professionally concerned with the enemy. (Once he comes almost face to face with an old Cairo friend, Penikoff, now a member of the British Long Range Desert Group, snatching down the main street of Derna which was thronged with German and Italian troops. It was fortunate for both of them, and particularly for Penikoff, that their eyes did not meet. The unimpaired, in fact, provides many examples of the futility of intermediaries within the European family.)

It is regrettable that sensitivity to insults from his enemies in war should lead Signor Caccia Dominioni to fall into the same pit. When it comes to name-calling nothing that the British achieved could have matched, for volume, intensity and bad taste, the torrent of abuse which the fascist government of Italy, its press and officialdom, had already poured on Britain for several years. When this was followed by the manner of Mussolini's entry into the war, the debates in Greece, Libya and Cyrenaica which came so quickly after the fall of the bomb, and the obvious reason for the day which preceded Graziani's ill-fated advance on Egypt, it is hardly surprising that the British soldier conjured up a picture which was not applicable to Italians like Signor Caccia Dominioni and his troops, and reciprocated in kind. Nevertheless, for what it does to give the Italian soldier the credit he deserves this book will be welcomed alike by those who experienced the stout defence of Keren and those who remember, a quarter of a century earlier, the heroic sacrifices on the Cursu and the Baisizza.

we are going into this because we are under orders... and because we are still the same as when we were second lieutenants and we lined up our platoons to explain why it was necessary to take Trento and Triceto. And we had plenty of good reasons to give them. But what on earth was a second lieutenant tell his men today?

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HAMISH HAMILTON

SOLDIERS OF THE DUCE
PAOLO CACCIA DOMINIONI: *Alamain 1933-1962*. Translated from the Italian by Dennis Clambrlin. 289pp. Allen and Unwin. £2.

The author, who had lived in Egypt before the war and had, like a number of British officers of about the same time, travelled in the desert between Alexandria, Mersa Matruh, Siwa and Cairo, is particularly well qualified to write the story of Alamain, in which he brings back a vivid picture of the desert scene as well as of the events in which he participated. After the war he returned to Egypt and played an important, and still dangerous, part in the location, identification and rebuilding of the fallen. *Alamain 1933-1962* covers the period from the fall of Tobruk to the end of the battle of Alamain. It is not a study of that battle, the mechanics of which are barely considered, but it is an intimate account of the Italian soldier's contribution in all these operations as seen by the commanding officer of a fighting unit which played a distinguished part in them.

Paolo Caccia Dominioni's story is both grave and gay, and is concerned primarily with the vicissitudes of the

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ALEXANDER MCKEE: *Flinty Ridge*. 242pp. Souvenir Press. 35s.

Canadian Corps was eluded only a handful of tanks for the obvious reason that its troops had to climb steep hills, but the considerable number allotted to Allenby's Third Army nearly all got bogged, a good many before they reached the positions from which they were to have begun their assault.

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COLLECTION ON THE GRAND SCALE

FERN RUSK SHAPLEY: *Paintings from the Samuel H. Kress Collection. Italian Schools XIII-XV Century. 435pp. Phaidon Press, for the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. £6.*

In museums after museums throughout the United States are to be found groups of pictures labelled as originating from the Kress Collection. The most notable single contribution is in the National Gallery of Art in Washington, but others, scarcely less important, are in the De Young Museum at San Francisco and the North Carolina Museum of Art at Raleigh. Countless smaller galleries, from Coral Gables to Notre Dame and Madison to Brunswick, have also been enriched by the addition of Kress gifts. In a sense the term "Kress Collection" is a misnomer, for in this case the word collection does not signify works informed by the taste or knowledge of an individual, but a magnificent corporate experiment in patronage on a scale never attempted heretofore. Concealed by Samuel H. Kress, whose earliest loan exhibitions date back to 1932, it was continued by his brother, Rush H. Kress, and after the latter's death was brought to a conclusion by the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. By the late 1950s the Kress Collection, that is the paintings which had passed through the Foundation's hands, numbered about 1,500 paintings of which 416 were donated to the National Gallery of Art.

The importance of the Kress Collection is not simply statistical. In the space of about thirty-five years

it acquired and distributed a surprisingly large number of significant works of art. Looking through the present catalogue, which deals with Italian paintings before 1500, we find the Duccio "Calling of Saints Peter and Andrew" from the Benson collection, a Madonna and a polyptych from the Giotto workshop, at Washington and Raleigh respectively, the "Annunciation Angel" by Simone Martini from the Harvard collection, a Madonna by Gentile da Fabriano and a predella panel from the Quarles altarpiece, a magnificent series of Ferrarese paintings headed by the Benivoglio portraits from the Timpla collection, the splendid circular "Adoration of the Magi" by Fra Filippo Lippi from the Cook collection, the beautiful Domenico Veneziano "Madonna" from Edgworthstown and two small panels from the same artist's Santa Lucia altarpiece, the Gozzoli "Dance of Salome", the Filippino Lippi "Pieta", again from the Benson collection, Sassetti's "Meeting of St. Anthony the Abbot and St. Paul the Hermit" from the Allendale collection, and the Rapalano altarpiece of Neroccio.

Broadly speaking, the strength of the collection lies in the works bought from established collections whose contents had been chosen with discrimination—the names of the Benson, Cook, Goldman, Platt and Leh-

man collections come especially to mind—and its weakness lies in the vast quantity of minor paintings procured in Italy. Though it includes great pictures, the foundation from the first seems to have exalted quantity at the expense of quality and the importance of condition in primitive paintings appears not to have been fully understood. The new catalogue is open in some criticism on the latter point: the "summary condition reports kindly drawn up by the Kress Foundation's Conservator, Professor Mario Modestini" are always inadequate, sometimes evasive, and occasionally wrong. A fair specimen of the style of the reports is provided by the note on Gentile da Fabriano's "Miracle of St. Nicholas": "Good condition; yellow varnish and unnecessary restorations; needs cleaning."

All collections of recent formation are disproportionately difficult to catalogue, and none more so than the Kress Collection, pictures for which were purchased only when fortified by multiple certificates (or "opinions" as they are here termed). With almost every painting there is thus a body of received opinion through which the catalogue must tread his way. It says much for Mrs. Shapley's integrity and commonsense that she performs this task successfully. If it scarcely ever transpires that any painting has been, in

the full sense, restituted afresh, she does it appear that the intention is to buttress a demonstrably fallacious view. In this respect the volume is greatly superior to the many secondary catalogues that have preceded it. The nature of the problem can be judged (to take one instance only) from a provincial Tuscan Madonna at Ponce (Puerto Rico), which has been variously and wrongly ascribed to Baccio d'Antonio and the Master of San Miniato. The new entry correctly observes that it "exhibits such independent figure types as to recommend cataloguing it for the present as anonymous", but continues: "An attribution to either Baccio d'Antonio or the Master of San Miniato cannot be wrong." If this means anything, it is that Mrs. Shapley has sized up the picture rightly, but has felt compelled to go on to the wrong certificates. No doubt in the future when the vendors and purchasers and experts and cleaners involved in this colossal enterprise are dead, the pictures in the collection will be catalogued, in the light of firm convictions about attribution, with complete, not partial, objectivity. Meanwhile we must be thankful for its present volume, in which the essential data on the pedigree and attributional vicissitudes of the paintings in the Kress Collection are clearly stated and all the pictures are reproduced.

VAN DYCK CHEZ RUBENS

MICHAEL JAFFÉ: *Van Dyck's Antwerp Sketchbook. Volume I: 316pp. 171 plates. Volume II: 290pp. 91 plates. Macdonald. £35.*

André-Charles Boule, perhaps the greatest of all French furniture-makers, was an impassioned art-collector. Go more than one occasion his over-lavish expenditure on works of art brought him to the verge of bankruptcy from which only Louis XIV's personal intervention with his creditors saved him. In the early hours of August 30, 1720, a disastrous fire broke out in the adjacent atelier in the Louvre and quickly extended to his apartments. By the time help arrived the flames were so fierce that the agonized collector saw himself obliged, in his own words, "d'abandonner aux flammes ce qu'il y avait de meilleur en dessins, estampes, médailles anciennes et modernes et autres curiosités". Among the works of art lost, valued at 208,570 livres, there were quantities of drawings by the greatest masters, Michelangelo, Raphael, Correggio and Stefano della Bella amongst them. One of the aged craftsman's most precious possessions was a pocket-book kept by Rubens in which the artist had made notes on a variety of matters useful to him in his career as a painter—technical questions, aesthetics, architecture, classical sculpture, costume notes and the like, all lavishly illustrated with his own drawings.

Although this note-book (already celebrated from descriptions by Bel-fort and Van Mander) was alleged to have perished totally, books in press, as the author of this work remarks, burn slowly even in the fiercest of fires. The fact that one or two sheets coming from the book appear to have survived, either singed at the edges or cut down, encouraged Mr. Jaffé to search for more survivals as part of the researches on Rubens in which he is engaged. As a result of a book of this nature in a binding entitled to him in his career as a painter—technical questions, aesthetics, architecture, classical sculpture, costume notes and the like, all lavishly illustrated with his own drawings.

In the second of the two volumes under review, this Van Dyck note-book is reproduced full-size and complete, in something like facsimile. This is accompanied by an elaborate discussion of the texts and sources to which it relates. In the first volume the author traces the note-book's history. This is particularly interesting for both it and the Italian note-book appear to have been stolen from Chatsworth in the late eighteenth century, their absence remaining unnoticed until shortly before they were amicably recovered from the late Sir Herbert Cook soon after 1900. In addition, Mr. Jaffé deploys his learning on a very far-ranging commentary in which he dwells at the greatest length on its relationship to the lost Rubens note-book, the search for which first brought the Van Dyck book to his attention. Much matter of high interest to Rubens scholars emerges from this, but the true value of the book lies in its addition to our knowledge of Van Dyck's development at the beginning of his career. Hitherto little has been known about the artist's early evolution as a draftsman. The sketch-book provides a greater wealth of documentation on this crucial period than exists for any other young artist of comparable importance.

On this account, alone it is most valuable to have the sketch-book reproduced in full even apart from Mr. Jaffé's extremely elaborate commentary. The only complaint is that, following the fashion of today, it has been produced in a quite unnecessary

ponderous fashion. The paper is over-heavy, the pages almost double the size needed to produce a facsimile. When, in 1940, Gert Adriani reproduced the whole of the rather longer and even more important Italian sketch-book of Van Dyck (like the present book it was still at Chatsworth), his Viennese publishers managed to include text and facsimile adequately in a book, no bigger than a novel, that could be easily held in

the hand for reading. With the present heavy tomes this is quite impossible. As a result the reader is tempted to skip the important bits of cross-referring from commentary to plates, especially when these are in different volumes. Mr. Jaffé mentions that a new edition of the sketch-book is in preparation. It is greatly to be hoped that its publishers will consider producing it in a more easily handled form.

David Piper

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COLLINS

Fiction

WATERY MUSE

MARGUERITE DURAS: *The Sailor from Gibraltar. Translated by Barbara Bray. 318pp. Calder and Boyars. 35s.*

Jeanne Moreau's face on the dust-jacket shows that this good translation has been limited to become the book of the film. *Le Marin de Gibraltar* first appeared in 1952, and like many another French novel of its decade, it has a lot of *Sartre* resonances about it. Among the points which M. Duras makes are that to free we must abandon the comforts of our eventful habits, and that to tell stories we need to be obsessed. The narrator of her novel is a tourist in Tunisia when it opens, and the narrative for soon begins to drip from his brow like sweat in the August sun. In quick succession he gives up his job, his mistress and *terra firma*, gaining in authenticity all the while. Instead of copying out statistics in a government office he will inevitably write a novel, and instead of going back to Franco with earnest, optimistic Jacqueline, he will put out to sea with Anna, a rich and desirable widow, with a gleaming white yacht.

There is a large element of parody in *The Sailor from Gibraltar*. The narrator's ambition is to write an "American" novel about his experiences, which means that there are tycoons, whisky and occasional fly-girlifications, in the direction of Ernest Hemingway. Anna, the bar-maid turned millionaire's, is an archetype of the film-fed imagination, as is her phantom lover, the sailor of the title, whom she pursues tirelessly round the world's water-fronts. He too had once emerged from the waters, a murderer and a deserter from the Foreign Legion. He is not a man but a motive, a chimerical state of grace that the free mind is doomed to pursue. All those who travel on Anna's yacht, and none of them seems able to remain long ashore, end up telling fanciful stories, like the one we are reading: Anna herself is little more than a watery and wealthy nurse. Waiting to be teased out from the fragile and not quite serious record of her obsession is a sad equation between art and a lost innocence.

BRUM BUMS

PATRICK HALL: *The Harp that Once. 220pp. Heinemann. 21s.*

The Harp that Once is a vigorous and athletically written variant of *Room at the Top*. If its raucousness is welcome, so too is its exploration of a new setting for this kind of novel, the Brummagem Irish. Philip Marler is a highly successful "new man" in the upper executive reaches of the Grenfell Group. With his £10,000, bucolic Jaguar, and unsatisfactory but beautiful and country wife, he seems wholly freed from his "Brummagem" origins. The sudden death of his father Joe in a pub brawl, however, brings Marler to a re-assessment of himself. The violence which has taken him to the top is a dehumanizing and highly directed example of the raw violence which killed his father.

Returning to bury Joe, Marler finds himself once more under the compulsion of the local code which demands that he should pay back in kind the unprovoked assault on his father. 'The police have been unable to bring a case because Joe had a weak heart, and might have died from that rather than any blow,' Marler obeys the demands of the code but disastrously.

What makes the novel worth notice is its vivid realization of Marler's Brummagem background, and the convincing inside picture of his life in the Grenfell Group. In this last respect *The Harp that Once* covers with unusual authority territory which is too often fudged either by ignorance or sentimental notions of power. The scenes set in the Group's offices and board meeting are certainly far more interesting than the parallel scenes in *Room at the Top*; Mr. Hall shows something of James Gould Cozzens's ability to invest the workings of a large organization with life and drama.

CHILD'S PLAY

A.S. BYATT: *The Game. 286pp. Chatto and Windus. 25s.*

"We have got to find a way of living in a world that eats and destroys and pays nothing back..." The prophetic Cassandra and Julia Corbett, the heroines of Mrs. Byatt's novel, come into the domain of moral philosophy. One solution, it seems, is to recreate life giving it the direction and shape it customarily lacks. Their story is encompassed between two fictions—a Brontë game of medieval battles and romance which they devised as children and, later on, a novel in which Julia attempts to capture her sister's life.

The illusion of omnipotence which games like these offer is clearly full of danger. When we meet the sisters, Cassandra is an English don, consciously shut off from contemporary life in the world of medieval romances, and Julia a successful writer of domestic novels which baton on her family and friends. One manipulates a fantasy world, the other the people round her; adults' versions of the childhood game. However, playing games also has a positive aspect in ritualizing the fierce rivalry between the sisters. When they bring their feelings into the open the effects are disastrous.

In adolescence they both loved a young man called Simon; they continued to love him when he disappeared from their lives; and they

love him again now. He reappears first in a television programme in which, from the banks of the Amazon, he lectures on the snake, while preaching the need to relate body and mind, and later he returns in person. An ambiguous figure on whom others project their need for ulterior significance, he is the focus of the sisters' rivalry and the focus of their aspirations.

Mrs. Byatt's protagonists have not enough substance to carry their philosophical load. Only Cassandra has the weight to at least command respect. Formidable, grotesque and extremely vulnerable, she stands out as the novel's most real character. The author unfortunately shares her heroine's tendency to manipulate; and *The Game* suffers from a suffocating design of symbols, patterns and complementary characters. Although it is a work of intelligence, full of illuminating comment and perceptive observation which carry it quite out of the ordinary, the total effect is of artifice. As with the later novels of Iris Murdoch (the influence is unmistakable) one is frequently dazzled, less often convinced. *The Game* is more sophisticated than Mrs. Byatt's first novel, but lacks its vitality. Worlds are not made, they grow: here there is not enough air for growth.

BRAVE OLD WORLD

REYNOLDS PRICE: *A Generous Man. 275pp. Chatto and Windus. 21s.*

In *A Generous Man* we are in North Carolina, as we were in Mr. Reynolds Price's admirable first novel *A Long and Happy Life*. The time is vaguely the present, but the America which he powerfully evokes is altogether unglittering and unsophisticated. A brooding peace and a timeless primitiveness reign; Milo, the main character, a boy of nearly sixteen, walks the dirt roads barefoot, with *Urmie Twm's Cribbi* bounding his horizon on the one side, and on the other the too intrusive shade of William Faulkner.

And not only is Mr. Price faithful to his region. He sticks also to the same family, the Mustans, laborious farmers of eight acres of tobacco. In *A Long and Happy Life* it was the girl Rosacoke who played the lead. Now her brother Milo, in the space of thirty-six hours or so, is made to execute some startling leaps across the frontiers that keep childhood and boyhood apart.

The action, backward-looking and

Iberian, is crowded. A python escaped from a travelling circus is hunted; a half-wit younger Mustan accompanied by a favourite dog suspected of rabies are also footloose in the woods; the circus-woman Selma turns out to have, from long time past, strong local connections, while her daughter and Milo establish swift, tenderly realized sexual relations in the present; the sheriff supervising the search-party has a wife he cannot satisfy and Milo—there are station qualities in this youngster—finds time to satisfy her as well as the girl.

Mr. Price remains beyond question a most talented writer. Yet after his debut *A Generous Man* must come as a disappointment. The writing, here still at its best conveying a Miranda-like wonder at all the sensuous marvels of the world, has none the less developed mannerisms; and both characters and fable have had loaded on to them a greater weight of significance than they are able to bear.

A CUBAN CONSCIENCE

LUIS RICARDO ALONSO: *Territorio Libre. Translated by Alon Brown. 266pp. Peter Owen. 32s. 6d.*

Territorio Libre is a passionate, deeply involved indictment of the Cuban revolution written by a former close friend of Fidel Castro: who fought with Castro's guerrilla movement from his first foray on July 26, 1953. Dr. Alonso was, as ambassador in London, an official of Castro's regime until 1965. His novel is the story of a disillusioned Government official who becomes involved in a plot to free political prisoners, and who is informed on by his resolutely Marxist wife.

Dr. Alonso's reaction to the Cuban revolution is typical of that of many Latin American social democrats, who often tend to be more violently anti-Communist than even their conservative rivals; it is the typical reaction also of the middle class to ruthless "proletarian" totalitarianism. But his novel is certainly of documentary value, derived as it is from first-hand experience. Its most impressive and plausible theme is that revolution was wrested from the hands of those who made it with their blood and was handed over to Communist Party hacks who often collaborated with Batista. The selfless idealism of mountain hideouts has been relinquished to petty schemers, the rôle of the *Gran Lider* himself betraying a personality perplexingly split between idealism and cynical calculation.

The novel's chaotic picture of mismanagement, bankruptcy and corruption may be true to a great extent, but Dr. Alonso oversimplifies its

causes, and the hysterically discriminatory actions of the United States, as early as 1959, are ignored. Enforced collectivization is seen from the point of view not of the mass of peasants who scrounged a living from three months' work during the sugar cane harvest, but from that of improbably romantic owners of smallholdings, heroic "pioneers". When a priest speaks up in support of the revolution, he turns out to be a drunken lecher. If, unlike Batista's, Castro's secret police do not "put eyes out or burn testicles" it is, according to Dr. Alonso, because they are more subtle.

DIGGING

PACI RITCHIE: *The Protagonist. 219pp. Calder and Boyars. 30s.*

The conception of saliently stranger exploring a sordid lodging house is at least as old as Gissing's *The Town Traveller*. Mr. Ritchie has chosen what is evidently intended to be a northern industrial background for his up-to-date version of this theme; and his characters are as grey as the atmosphere. There is some attempt to infuse a Graham Greene-like sense of sex and sin but all this really amounts to is that Honey, the self-anointed stranger, recalls that "As a howling baby his Aunt Hannah brought him rest by trying with his penis. She had been a good, virgin woman. And he had grown up to be a sensual, tortured child."

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THE ROAD TO SINGAPORE

MAURICE COLLIS: *Raffles*. 228pp.

Faber and Faber. £2 2s.

Thomas Stamford Raffles was born on 6 July, 1781, on board the West India-man *Ann* (260 tons, four guns), the master of which was his father, Captain Benjamin Raffles. At the time the *Ann* was three or four days out from Jamaica on the way home to England in a convoy of some 200 vessels. The War of American Independence was at its height, the British merchantmen had to be protected against the warships both of the revolted colonies and their allies, the French and the Dutch. That same year in October the English army surrendered at Yorktown. American independence was won. Thus the birth of Raffles, destined to open the Far East to Britain, coincided with the close of her western dominion.

These opening sentences of Mr. Collis's excellent biography of Raffles well illustrate his method. The story is carefully, clearly, elegantly told, but it is presented in its setting. We are given what is relevant of the circumstances, we are never left uncertain of what year it is, what were the social, physical, historical conditions of the episodes of Raffles's career. The man is portrayed in the round, and in a manner which will certainly lend to a more general understanding of his life and achievements than has been possible before, although the author claims to have added but little to what is known. This is a book which, at a time when the British position in the Orient is once more in question, should be widely read.

The *Ann* was a slave ship. Raffles grew up as the great agitation against slavery was rising, and ended his life the friend and neighbour of William Wilberforce. Humanism informed his work in the east and was one of the causes of friction between himself and the East India Company directors, for whom charity began and ended at home. He entered East India House as a clerk at the age of fourteen when his father could no longer afford to keep him in school. The death of his father two years later left the boy's salary of £70 a year as the sole support of his mother and five sisters. Such responsibility could not but stimulate ambition. A natural student, Raffles laboured to educate himself in his leisure hours, and "found

that he was able to grasp by his unaided efforts what boys of his age had to have drilled into them". His assiduity and superior understanding won him at the age of twenty-four the chance of a lifetime. The Napoleonic Wars were in full swing. Napoleon, through his Dutch allies, was master of what is now Indonesia and was threatening Britain's trade with China. To counter this, the East India Company decided to strengthen the outpost of Penang as an intermediate port of call between Calcutta and Canino. Raffles, whose brilliance had been recognized by his seniors, was chosen for a high position in the enlarged administration, with a salary of £1,500. He married a thirty-four-year-old widow who turned out to be ideally suited to his new career and in 1805 set out for Penang in the entourage of the new governor, learning Malay during the voyage.

Few of Raffles's contemporaries knew Malay. Even fewer had his taste for oriental studies and his sympathetic interest in the people around him. So able did he show himself in Penang that in 1807 at the age of twenty-six he was appointed Chief Secretary to the Governor. The war against Napoleon raged on. Three years later Raffles went to Calcutta to meet Lord Minto, whose main preoccupation as Governor-General of India was for the moment how to wrest Java from French and Dutch control. Raffles was the man with ideas. He reached a warm understanding with Minto, became his chief instrument for the conquest of Java in 1811, and remained as Lieutenant-Governor.

Both Minto and Raffles realized that when the war with the French was over, Java would almost inevitably go back to the Dutch for reasons of European politics. They found this the more reason to do quickly what good was possible. The Dutch had ruled the island under what was called the mercantile system, the method of economic exploitation against which the American colonies had revolted thirty years earlier. The more liberal land revenue system

which Raffles instituted with the agreement of most of the remaining Dutch officials was immediately more expensive but sounder in the long run. Unhappily there was to be no long run in Java. The East India Company had taken it on unwillingly and saw no reason to spend money there. They were only too ready to listen to frivolous accusations of maladministration against Raffles. When the case came to a head in Calcutta, Minto had gone and the new Governor-General, Lord Minto, later the Marquess of Hastings, otherwise an able and fair-minded man, was perhaps suspicious of his predecessor's favourite. Prejudice allied itself with indifference and Raffles was eventually superseded in March, 1816, a few months before Java was returned to the Dutch.

Mrs. Raffles had died in 1814. Raffles's own health was showing signs of his eleven unrelieved years in an equatorial climate and he decided to take leave at home. Here his public reputation stood as high as his credit with the East India Company was low. His *History of Java* was published in April, 1817, and he was knighted in the following month by the Prince Regent, who warmly praised his work in the island. During the months of popularity and public recognition that followed Raffles met Canning, who was then the Minister directly responsible for East India Company affairs, and was invited to submit his views on how to secure British interests in the East Indian archipelago.

Raffles shared the widely held opinion that the Dutch would use their restored colonial position to exclude the British from the area and hamper their trade with China. The British at Penang and at Bencoolen, their post on the south-western coast of Sumatra, were too far from the Dutch centre in Java to be able to defend their interests. There should be a third station at the eastern end of the Straits of Malacca, so situated that it would frustrate Dutch plans against British commerce. Raffles, with his new wife, returned to the east as Lieutenant-Governor of Bencoolen in March, 1818. He had no authority to carry out what he had recommended. "He had, however, been given to understand that "it

KIPLING WAS HERE

LOUIS L. CORNELL: *Kipling in India*. 224pp. Macmillan. 30s.
J. I. M. STEWART: *Rudyard Kipling*. 190pp. Gollancz. 28s.

Nothing is so true as Henry James's comment on Kipling, that he had genius as distinct from fine intelligence. The genius enthralled; the failures of intelligence constantly infuriated, and, indeed, have infuriated critics to such an extent that (as with Dickens, of whom the same could be said) his "down" period entailed an unduly deep and prolonged trough of contempt and still bedevils the tardily awakening recognition of his worth. It is from fury and frustration at the dichotomy that for Kipling studies biography is still too often the first and not the last recourse of the critic. After Professor Carrington's biography of 1955, which was followed in 1959 by Professor Tompkins's admirable *The Art of Rudyard Kipling*, we might have hoped that sufficient groundwork had been laid for deeper exploration of the works *per se*, and occasionally, as with Professor Bodley's recent studies of the later stories, such explorations do occur.

But in general academic calm is not yet attained, and there is, as Louis L. Cornell writes in his preface, a tendency for each newcomer to write as if no one had ever read or written about Kipling before.

So far as purely literary criticism goes, much of Professor Cornell's book on Kipling's early years falls into the loving-amateur category. Though it has an impressive bibliography, major insights are lacking, and there are some almost pervasive omissions. For instance, in discussing the influence of French writers on Kipling's early work, he ignores Professor Carrington's categorical statement that *The Story of the Godsby* derives from Guy's *Autobiography of Mark*, as he ignores Professor Carrington on other sources for the early work, and even on the influence of Walter Besant's novel, *All in the Gold*, on Kipling's *The Day of the*.

throughout he relies heavily on Professor Carrington's biography, as, indeed, he must.

The principal value of Professor Cornell's book is referential rather than interpretative. It is useful in having a chronological account of the early publications set in detail against Kipling's life, and especially useful to have the appendixes. There is a chronological list of Kipling's writings as they appeared in print between October, 1882, and March, 1889 (marred only by the ugliness of what we are told is "the Chandler Summary in using all capitals for PROSE TITLES"); a valuable account of the Garrard-notebooks—we still know too little about this relationship; and a third appendix on Kipling's uncollected newspaper writings of the period, with comments on the possible authenticity of the dubious anonymous pieces. Here Professor Cornell's suggestion that articles signed "Nick" were by Lockwood Kipling, those signed "Nickson" by his son, has the ring of truth.

Mr. Stewart's book is slighter but more comprehensive, surveying—necessarily briefly—the corpus in relation to the life. Though much is too superficially treated and much is omitted, there are some useful insights, such as the extent to which Kipling's own historic past has been "ethnographized" by his own writings, so that independent evidence is, with the best will in the world, lacking; each witness looking to Kipling's writings rather than to his own experience. This book provides a useful introduction to Kipling for those who might find Professor Tompkins's book dauntingly non-didactic, but for those for whom introductions are no longer needed its pleasures are rather those of reading about the familiar than of deeper exploration.

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KEEPING THE PEACE

CARL VON HORN: *Soldiering for Peace*. 372pp. Cassell. £2 10s.

The Swedes are a most useful people. Domestically, we look upon them as a kind of democratic Utopia. When we have social, economic or industrial problems to solve, our first recourse is to send a delegation to Sweden to see how much better they do things there. Internationally, we use Sweden as a kind of ombudsman. When an impartial empire is needed to help out the United Nations, Sweden is commonly the first choice. In both roles their reputation for efficiency and reliability has long been legendary. It is true that the Utopian image does not always stand up to close inspection. Even the fame of Swedish arbitration has been tarnished after the publication of General von Horn's memoirs.

Certainly he had a most frustrating and unenviable task as military commander of U.N. forces, first in Palestine, then in the Congo, then in the Yemen. The calamitous events in all three countries are well known, at least in their external manifestations, and General von Horn does not attempt to elaborate them. His story is concerned rather with the internal relations within the U.N. missions, and the undisclosed aspects of their relations with the contending parties in each country. It is difficult to say which makes the more disagreeable reading. General von Horn found himself at loggerheads with many of his superiors and senior colleagues, including Hammarskjöld and Dr. Ralph Bunche, not to mention the ubiquitous generals and administrators from India, Ethiopia

and Czechoslovakia with whom he was expected to collaborate. He also formed the strongest antipathy to the Israelis—particularly Ben-Gurion and Mrs. Meir—and to the pro-Umumba faction of the Congolese; and he preferred the Royalists to the Republicans in the Yemen. Although he insists that he began without prejudices, he certainly ended his career with opinions indistinguishable from those of an old-fashioned imperialist.

The sad story of the General's disillusionment is not the most important reason for reading his book. Much more important is its contribution to a study of the problem of how international peace-keeping operations should be mounted. Two defects are painfully apparent from General von Horn's experience. One is the impossibility of achieving efficient staff-work with scratch forces thrown together ad hoc from many different nationalities. The other is the lack of a clear chain of command integrating the civil and military elements in a U.N. "presence". So far as the first is concerned, the case for a permanent military staff under U.N. control—as was laid down in the Charter, but never put into effect—seems incontrovertible. But that is different from a permanent international force in being, which is a much more doubtful proposition. On the problem of integrating the civil and military hierarchy in a peace-keeping operation General von Horn has no practical advice to offer, only lamentations about his own bad luck. It was hard indeed, but the General puts his readers' sympathies to severe strain.

V.C.s OF THE AIR

ARTHUR BISHOP: *The Courage of the Early Morning*. 206pp. Heinemann. 30s.
The Personal Diary of Major Edward "Mick" Mannock. Introduced and edited by Frederick Oughton. 221pp. Spemman. 30s.

Captain (later Air Marshal) William Avery Bishop won his V.C. for the first example in history of intrusion on an enemy airfield in June, 1917, when he shot down three enemy aircraft soon after they had taken off. He went on to build up a score of twenty-two confirmed "kills" and lived to tell the tale. Major Mannock, a contemporary, was posthumously awarded the V.C. his total of victories confirmed as being fifty (not thirty-three as Mrs. Oughton declares, although he was probably entitled to claim a dozen more). The stories of both men have been told before. These new volumes are to be explained by a promise Mr. Bishop, himself an airman, gave his father before he died in 1956, and by the discovery only three years ago of a diary Mannock kept during the early part of his active service.

They come together opportunely to show two men of quite different temperaments, both of them first-class fighter-pilots, both concentrating on the same essentials—tactics and

SCAPEGOAT OF GALLIPOLI

IAN B. M. HAMILTON: *The Happy Warrior*. The Life of General Sir Ian Hamilton by his Nephew. 487pp. Cassell. £2 10s.

The life-span which is the subject of this biography began before the close of the war in the Crimea and went on until two years after the end of the Second World War. Sir Ian Hamilton was born in the Indian Islands during the British occupation and, as soon as he was old enough, was to be found near the centre of most of the events, great and small, which made up the British Army's cavalcade through the second half of the nineteenth century and well into the twentieth. He fought with distinction in the Second Afghan War at Majuba, in the Gordon Relief Expedition, in Burma, on the North-West Frontier of India, again in South Africa at Elandsvaag, Ladysmith and in Lord Roberts's march from Bloemfontein to Pretoria; he attended the Russo-Japanese War as an official observer and ended his active career in charge of the Dardanelles expedition. Consequently his biography affords a remarkably good opportunity, of which the author avails himself with skill and fidelity, to see in perspective a long and colourful vista of British military history.

Mr. Ian Hamilton has also rendered a special service by drawing a firm picture of his uncle's character and, without the aid of whitewash, revealing it from the obloquy which

Scrap Book will find Mr. Hamilton's chapter on Mandchuria of great interest. For all Sir Ian's enthusiasm for his Japanese allies, and his sincere and successful camaraderie with the Japanese field commanders, he was not for a moment blinded to the possibilities which the future held. Writing in his diary, he remarked that

The Japs are splendid allies to us as long as we are splendid allies to them. . . . And if our Army and Navy were not worth being allied with, then we might beg for a renewal in vain. Splendid allies, brave soldiers, useful partners, but don't love your heart to them, for that article does not enter into their side of the bargain.

When 1914 was reached the world of those who had fought at Majuba, at Kabul and at Kandahar, and who had filled the interim periods with shooting in Kashmir, or at Siola, or on long leave at home, came to a shattering end. For Hamilton, however, there was no break in the continuity of his military existence since his vision was always roving abroad. He had foreseen the circumstances in which the next war would be fought and had them confirmed by his experiences in Manchuria.

Not inhumanly Mr. Hamilton deserves the largest proportion of his

space to Gallipoli and it is an excellent account. This should have been the crowning laurel of a great career, but at the critical moment fortune deserted Sir Ian. He must surely have realized this when, on March 12, 1915, Kitchener sent for him, looking up from his writing table just long enough to say "We are sending a military force to support the fleet now at the Dardanelles, and you are to have command". There were no plans, no maps, virtually no information and certainly no intelligence worth the name. Anyone reading the written instructions which Hamilton received from Kitchener the next day could hardly have been sanguine, and Hamilton wrote to his wife "I can only try my level best". Among other things he was now caught up in the quarrel between the Westerners and the Easterners, with all its dangerous political undertones. The rest of this sad and frustrating story is well known; all chance of surprising the "Japs" had long since vanished; troops for the undertaking were largely undisciplined, badly established and dispatched to the Dardanelles piecemeal; reinforcements and battle replacements, gun ammunition and vital supplies were woefully short. There was some

classic liddling. Divisions, which were sent later to enlarge the force, were, it appears, cunningly reported by the War Office to the War Cabinet also as battle replacements. Hamilton's loyalty to Kitchener, perhaps wrongly on this occasion, stifled his complaints, and the loyalty which he always showed to his subordinate commanders prevented him from removing them, a course which alone could have overcome Stopford's tragic inertia. Hamilton had inevitably become the scapegoat and he bore it with his habitual dignity and lack of bitterness.

This is an extremely good, refreshing and welcome biography of a highly intelligent, sensitive and likeable soldier. Mr. Hamilton derives his information from a mass of letters, diaries and other writings which describe events as they were seen at the time and not as they appear in the dress of afterthought, coloured perhaps by other people's views and interests. Sir Ian Hamilton himself, writing in the preface of *A Staff Officer's Scrap Book*, shrewdly observed: "On the actual day of battle naked truths may be picked up for the asking; by the following morning they have already begun to get into their uniforms."

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SEX VERSUS SOCCER

ROBERT C. SUGGS: *Marquesan Sexual Behavior*. 251pp. Constable. 35s.

Contrary to popular belief, the exotic sexual customs of so-called "primitives" are not a central preoccupation of modern anthropologists, who are on the whole much more concerned with such less immediately appealing themes as social structure, relational and value systems, and the like. But some reputable fieldworkers are still interested in sex, and Dr. Suggs is one of them. Though he is primarily an archaeologist, and went to the Marquesan archipelago in Polynesia in that capacity, he could hardly have chosen a better place to undertake his present study. In spite of more than one hundred years of missionary repression, Marquesans are apparently still very keen on sex in all far-flung parts of its forms, and on Dr. Suggs's showing they are both doughty practitioners of it and unusually uninhibited about it. He writes: "sex, in the modern Marquesan, is something of a national sport—a culturally sanctioned pastime in a culture offering few recreational opportunities". Soccer, introduced by the missionaries in the "hope that it would prove fulguring enough to cut down on nocturnal sexual activities", did not afford an adequate substitute.

None the less Marquesans are not so forthcoming that they will divulge details of their sex lives to any inquisitive European who inquires about them, and Dr. Suggs, who evidently knows the people and the language well, used techniques of interview, observation (naturally somewhat restricted) and what he calls "conversation monitoring". As an archaeologist he employed large work gangs whose overheard conversations were mostly about sex, and this provided a rich vein of information. Though his book lacks the detailed and annotated individual case histories which must form an essential part of any adequate modern field monograph by a professional social anthropologist, it is sensibly and systematically constructed, and gives accounts of sexual activities and ideas in the contexts of pregnancy and childbirth, infancy, puberty and adolescence,

and adult life. He makes good use of the quite substantial existing literature on Marquesan culture, and he indicates, so far as the evidence permits, the major points of impact of social and cultural change. There are brief appendices on venereal and other diseases and their treatment, and a particularly interesting one (the substance of which might well have been included in the main text) on Marquesan demography. This describes, all the more effectively for its laconic tone, the tragic crushing by the Europeans of this "flamboyant but strangely fragile culture", and the dramatic reduction of the Marquesan population, which was perhaps 100,000 at the end of the eighteenth century, to its present tiny figure of just over 4,000. As elsewhere in the Pacific, this was due mainly to the combined effects of introduced diseases, depletion of resources, warfare and alcohol, not to mention the direct impact of European traders and missionaries.

A vivid if tantalizingly fragmentary picture of the relevant aspects of Marquesan culture emerges from Dr. Suggs's account: the strong emphasis, still sustained, on bodily cleanliness and personal hygiene; the forms of sexual competitiveness; the wide range of permissiveness in sexual matters; the male-female opposition in traditional religion; and the curious absence of sexual motifs in traditional Marquesan art. As regards the last Dr. Suggs suggests somewhat naively that Marquesans have no need of sublimation, since "anything vicarious is a waste of time and effort, detracting from the really important aspect of sex life: orgasmic outlet". He does not explain why in that case they bothered with art at all, as they conspicuously did.

Dr. Suggs has written a competent field study on a delicate topic, if he had been able to put his findings more firmly in the broader context of Marquesan social and cultural life as a whole, his book might indeed have stood comparison with Malinowski's classic study, as the dust-jacket claims.

POLITICS ON THE PLAYING FIELD

JEAN MEYNAUD: *Sport et politique*. 321pp. Paris: Payot. 16fr.

The word "sport" does not figure once in the thirteen volumes of the International Bibliography of Political Science, and according to G. Maguane, whose *Sociologie du sport* was published in 1964, there is a similar neglect of the subject by sociologists. We may well agree with Jean Meynaud (a respected political scientist and authority on political pressure groups) that this is an astonishing lacuna. We may, however, also regretfully conclude that the volume under review has not gone a great way towards filling it. Even the relatively restricted subject of "sport and politics"—and one may feel that the restriction was in itself an unnecessary handicap—is treated for the most part in a conventionally descriptive way which leaves one no closer to structural-functional understanding of a striking, large-scale and worldwide modern phenomenon. The first two thirds of the book are really rather dull. However, the last 100 pages are a good deal more interesting because in them the author is concentrating on a theme which, though limited, is well documented and of considerable importance: the part played by sport in international relations.

In his concluding remarks, M. Meynaud says with some justice that the influence of sport on politics is appreciably less evident than the influence of politics on sport. If sport does in fact play any part in the formation of political attitudes, there is no hard evidence, no systematic research to prove it. Opinions on the matter are, at best, interesting hypotheses, more generally they are ideological clichés of a somewhat banal order. A major source of this ideology is to be found in the immense literature of "olympism", deriving from the founder of the Olympic Games, the Baron de Coubertin, who "wished to make of the olympic phenomenon a kind of religion, from which might spring a new aristocracy or better a new chivalry: at the base of this conception was the glorification of beauty as represented by the adult male". Many of Coubertin's ideas can be related to the educational theory of the British public schools, with their emphasis on the character-building benefits of sport.

On the day Jamaica received its independence, the Jamaican Chamber of Commerce sent a message to the British Government of which the gist was that from their earliest years Jamaicans had learnt to respect law and order on the playing field, to "play cricket" both on the field and off it. The message linked the three concepts of sportsmanship, the rule of law and parliamentary democracy. Similar notions could no doubt be found in other parts of the British Commonwealth. However, the use of sport as a means of political education seems not to have been deliberate on the part of the British Government. Like the industrial revolution, the diffusion of British sport was largely or wholly unplanned. M. Meynaud thinks it may have helped to associate the British image with the idea of fair play but points out that we have no real evidence of how far it was negated by the counter-stereotype of *perfidie Albion*.

Essential to the ideology of "olympism" is the belief that international sporting contests promote the cause of peace and "international understanding", even though since the Games were initiated the world has hardly become more peaceful. Moreover, M. Meynaud reminds us of the sequel to Russian successes in the Games, when President Eisenhower charged Vice-President Nixon with the preparation of a

programme to step up American olympic capacity. It is eagerly argued that we are witnessing an exploitation of sport for political ends rather than an autonomous influence of sport on politics. In 1960, the Spanish government refused the national football team permission to visit Moscow for a match with the Russian team, but in 1964 the match was played in Madrid complete with Soviet anthem, in the presence of General Franco (one year after the execution of Girona). This was linked to an economic rapprochement of some magnitude. While Polish industry built a large sugar factory near Valladolid, the shipyards of Seville produced two hulls of 11,600 tons for Poland's merchant marine.

New political possibilities are envisaged for various kinds of regional and ethnic contests—Pan American Games, Commonwealth Games, Mediterranean Games, Pan Arab Games, Maccabean Games (held regularly in Tel-Aviv since 1951) among others. Of particular interest was the organization of Djakarta in 1963 of Games of the New Emerging Forces". A movement also exists for the organization of a Common Market team which could compete on equal terms with America and Russia.

All in all it seems likely that sport has a conspicuous role to play in modern diplomacy, along with other kinds of "cultural" exchange. The advantage of sport lies in the immensely large public which is interested. At the same time it seems sensible to conclude, with M. Meynaud, that contests and consensus in the field of sport develop more or less in the same rhythm as those in the political and economic field, and are unlikely to provide an independent and autonomous basis for international solidarity.

OVER AGE

D. B. BROMLEY: *The Psychology of Human Ageing*. 366pp. Penguin. 6s.H. E. BRACEY: *In Retirement*. Pensioners in Great Britain and the United States. 295pp. Routledge and Kegan Paul. £2.H. P. STEER: *Caring for the Elderly*. 106pp. S.P.C.K. 12s. 6d.FRANCES MERCHANT CARP: *A Future for the Aged*. 287pp. University of Texas Press for the Holt Foundation for Mental Health. (American University Publishers Group). £2 6s.

Dr. Bromley gives a useful and detailed account of the aging process as it affects the human body and the human mind. Broadly speaking, old age is a reasonably healthy period (until the age of seventy-five is reached some 80 per cent of all the elderly are free from chronic or irremediable illness); they are, however, as susceptible, if not more so, to acute illness as their younger contemporaries. The elimination of so many of the deaths caused by infections of all sorts among younger people has made more prominent the effects of the degenerative, killing diseases of old age. Here again to a genetic susceptibility to many of these ailments there needs to be added an appropriate environmental factor before they become effective either as an individual or a national problem: chronic bronchitis is a good example of this.

Dr. Bromley discusses at some length and with considerable insight the difficulties experienced by an ordinary working man in an ordinary job, in trying to prepare for retirement, compared with the relative ease with which this can be achieved by what may be called a professional worker engaged in "vocational" work. The increase in the number of employees engaged now in repetitive, semi-skilled work is likely to make this problem greater rather than less in the future. A large part of this book is taken up with an elaborate account of the various investigations of the mental changes associated with aging. In many constructive occupations the intellectual peak being attained before the age of forty-five. The facts disclosed here are particularly appropriate at the present time when the numbers of the elderly are increasing, and the question of the continued employment of elderly persons is much before the public. Dr. Bromley points out that older people show, if anything, an even greater range of individual differences than do younger people and he emphasizes that there will always be

ing the life span, and maximizing vigour and capacity during the present normal expectation. If the former is achieved (and this will not be tomorrow, for the expectation of life of eighty has not changed greatly over the past fifty years) "it is likely that the latter will remain—perhaps becoming even more urgent".

It is a useful and interesting exercise to try to compare the lives of those living in retirement on a pension in Great Britain and in the United States. But, such is the difficulty in comparing the ways of life and the standards of living in the two countries that the exercise, however attractive, loses some of its purpose. Further, the sample chosen by Dr. Bracey for analysis and comparison is small—100 households in each country. In many ways 70 per cent of the population in the United States live a better life, by material standards, than do many pensioners in this country, especially those here who live in squalid conditions in the many slum areas which are still to be found. Young people in Great Britain have greater difficulty in obtaining accommodation separate from their parents when they wish to marry than do corresponding people in the United States. This has the effect that the elderly are not left so often or so much on their own.

Suitable housing, with all that it implies by way of friends and communication, is one of the most important elements in making the life of a pensioner enjoyable or even bearable. Here, according to Dr. Bracey, the United States are better than Great Britain. Although more than 70 per cent of all American pensioners receive a regular Social Security cheque of varying size and about 50 per cent of all such pensioners receive, in addition, some pension from their late employment, these sums do not cover the cost of ill health to the average family. The

health in the United States would read rather frighteningly to the average British pensioner who pays insurance or health premiums, once he is drawing retirement benefits, but who enjoys free hospital and private doctor service, pays no prescription charges and receives substantial dental and optical benefits.

This comparison is interesting, when large and important issues are discussed: it is doubtful, as he himself suggests, whether the sample investigated by Dr. Bracey is large enough to show significant comparisons when it comes to details. Within its limits, *In Retirement* is of interest and value, it has been carefully prepared and the facts are accurate.

Loneliness and insecurity are two of the problems which the aged have to face: they often first come into contact with them when retirement from work suddenly brings home the shock resulting from a considerable drop in income, and a corresponding fall in status and loss of the companionship of fellow workers. Mr. Steer sensibly draws attention to these two problems and shows how the church can often help its members to overcome them. His clergyman can be of use to elderly parishioners by being able to advise them on their physical, as well as their spiritual, needs. The importance of friendship that can be established between the very young and the very old is well illustrated and emphasized. Many elderly people could read this little book with profit.

In 1956 the San Antonio House Authority in Texas started a well-known project for the housing and care of the elderly. Out of a total of 352 applicants, with an average age of seventy-two years, 204 were selected to enjoy the pleasures of a new venture. In *A Future for the Aged* Dr. Carp has presented a full account of this pioneering project with enthusiasm and knowledge which will make her book useful in addition to the steadily increasing number of books on similar subjects for the world.

STEVEN MARCUS: *The Other Victorians*. A Study of Sexuality and Pornography in Mid-Nineteenth Century England. 292pp. Wiedenfeld and Nicolson. £2 5s.

The title is awkward and a little misleading. Professor Marcus means partly that pornography writing was thought to have been "shocking" or "other", by the Victorians, partly that although this "otherness" provides a link between the Victorians and ourselves, "connection is nevertheless not identity—and in the case of these Victorians also remains both other to us and Victorian". This is on odd way of putting the point that below the hard respectable crust of Victorian life lay a flourishing market in pornography, and that the aggressive ardour of Victorian idealism concealed a longing for self-abuse expressed in fantasies of masochism. Pornography in nineteenth-century England was produced for the upper class of society, and its readers must have included many of those who created the accepted image of what is called Victorianism. They were not the other, but the same Victorians. This is not a verbal quibble, because it follows that we should like to know details of the volume and circulation of Victorian pornography. How many books were produced, what prices were they sold at, how were they distributed? How do they compare in character and extent with the pornography produced in other countries during the same period? Professor Marcus has regarded these questions as outside the range of the present work, but they are bound to occur to his readers, and in a sociological sense they are of great importance.

To point out this limitation is not to deny that *The Other Victorians*, which is based on the extensive materials available at the Institute for Sex Research founded by Alfred C. Kinsey, is a valuable and original study. The approach is brilliantly devised. An opening section discusses the orthodox Victorian view of sex relations in the writings of the physician William Acton. This is succeeded by an account of the material contained in the extraordinary literary and bibliographical work of the rich

merchant Henry Spencer Ashbee. There follows a long, closely detailed description of the eleven-volume autobiography *My Secret Life*, shorter analyses of four pornographic novels and of flagellation literature, and a final section on "Pornopia", the ideal, non-human world of pornography where human figures exist only to perform endlessly variations and combinations of the sexual act. What is especially rewarding in this approach is that Acton and Ashbee reveal in themselves, and through Professor Marcus's commentary, the nineteenth-century viewpoints that made the counter-balance of pornography acceptable and necessary.

Professor Marcus appreciates Ashbee's genuine scholarship while pointing out that his critical judgment is at the mercy of his anticlericalism and that his "obsession with the sins of Rome is the counterpart and analogue of his interest in pornography". The essay on Acton is even more interesting. The physician is not ridiculed, and indeed his view of prostitution was in many ways what we should call enlightened. He observed that comparatively few prostitutes sank to social ruin while many returned to "a more or less regular course of life", and suggested that England could well borrow ideas from French handling of the whole question of prostitution. Yet the same Acton, in his *The Functions and Disorders of the Reproductive Organs*, wrote that all children areosexual, that masturbation stunted development and led to insanity, early death or self-destruction, that over-indulgence in sexual intercourse could cause general debility and affect the sight, and that women were rarely troubled by any sexual feeling and submitted to intercourse only to please their husbands. "No nervous or feeble young man need, therefore, be debarrd from marriage by any exaggerated notion of the duties required from him."

Acton's views embodied a general Victorian attitude, and as Professor Marcus says such an attitude demands the existence of its opposite. Sex is a curse, a torture and a continual danger, yet given the strength of the

sexual instinct there must be a world where it is none of these things, where endless indulgence in this pursuit carries no penalty. In one of many illuminating asides the author points out that semen was thought by Victorians to be a "highly organized fluid, requiring the expenditure of which vital force in its elaboration and in its expulsion", that the colloquial expression for an orgasm was "to spend", and that the idea of semen's function was closely identified with the idea of the function of money. A frequent masturbator was a deplorable spendthrift.

The extended analysis of *My Secret Life* is extremely informative. The complete book has been read by very few people, although ignorance has not precluded critical comment. It purports to be the "sexual memoirs of a Victorian gentleman" derived from diaries kept over a number of years, and this common fictional device may in this instance actually be the truth. Professor Marcus seems to believe that it is essentially true, pointing out that passages "of critical or ideological reflection on the episode described" seem often to have been added after the event, and that later comments are added to these reflections. If we accept that the book was written in this way that is not the same thing as saying that all the episodes occurred, or that they happened just as they are narrated. Some of the long quotations seem to bear the mark of truth, in particular an account of the narrator's odd relationship with two young prostitutes recently arrived in London. Others appear to be standard pornographic fabrications. Professor Marcus does not seem to have made up his own mind about this, for he says in one place that the narrator's "ability to admit to the discrepancy between fantasy and reality" is a mark of credibility while in another he surprisingly asserts that the credibility of the account is enhanced rather than impaired by fantasies and falsehoods. The author of the book is still unknown and all that can be said with confidence is that *My Secret Life* is the work of a man with considerable literary talent and a keen eye for

sociological differences. To read him on the sexual attitudes of "the lower classes" is like reading a Mayhew whose powers of observation are not accompanied by human sympathy. The book is certainly in a different category from *The Autobiography of a Surgeon* and the other standard pornographic books examined, but the difference may well be one of art rather than acuity.

There is one reason for doubting the narrator's credibility which remains unmentioned. Realism for sexual experience has in England during this century been emphatically a class question, with contentions relaxing or disappearing as the social scale rose. It does not seem likely that Victorian working-class girls were less inhibited than their modern successors, and the fact that this question apparently never arose for the narrator of *My Secret Life* does not encourage belief in his truthfulness.

The impression should not be left that *The Other Victorians* is simply an historical study. Professor Marcus's own comments link Victorian pornography firmly with the social and literary life of the period. The resemblance he shows between *The Lustful Turk* (1828) and the conventional novel of sensibility, with the terminology of sensibility changed into that of sexuality, are very convincing, and so is his view that the growth of pornography has paralleled that of the novel. His idea that in modern times we have seen a sexual revolution which has not been accompanied by a social revolution, and that the connexion between the two is vitally important to an understanding of the nature of European society, is a fascinating one, although it is not followed through very far. If he leaves us asking questions—why was Victorian flagellation literature so greatly occupied with masochism when ours is chiefly concerned with sadism? Is one only one of them—that is really a tribute to him. *The Other Victorians* is an immensely intelligent excursion, carried through with verve and frequent wit, in what is almost—if the phrase may be excused—virgin ground.

D.G.R. AND THE P.R.B.

G. H. FLEMING: *Rossetti and the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood*. Volume I. 233pp. Rupert Hart-Davis. £2 10s.

In the biographies that have been written about him, Rossetti, all too seldom moves from the Antique Class into the Life, which is all the stranger since he was the most lively, and to his contemporaries the most life-enhancing, of people. This meant, as it did with Coleridge, that his work suffered, and it enables biographers to look at him with an air of school-mastery disapproval. Professor Fleming, although he puts him *placens inter pares* in the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, cannot resist awarding a conductor mark here and there. For slackness, for lack of team spirit, tendency to sponge on aunts, in fact for unsporting behaviour in general. In considerable detail from well-known sources he traces the development of the Brotherhood from its founding in 1848 to its close-down in 1853: "So now the whole Raind Table is dissolved"—which was marked symbolically by the election of Millais to the Royal Academy and followed by Hunt's departure for the Holy Land and the tragic early death of Deverell.

Professor Fleming's book is solemn without being serious, for although it is intended as a definitive study in two volumes, he does not indicate his sources nor show where he has checked them with originals. To take a minor but typical example: he quotes an extract from a letter to P. G. Stephens from John Tupper about preparing for the printing of *The Germ*. This first appeared in print on the back page of this journal in 1957, and the manuscript is now at the Bodleian, but nowhere is this indicated. And the book is plodding in the extreme. "Cordelia watching at the bedside of Lear is important, not because Rossetti was one of the painter's models but because this picture was Ford Madox Brown's first truly outstanding work of art." On Rossetti and "The Girlhood of Mary Virgin": "Then, a full four weeks before the Academy's sending-in day, he stood and gazed at his first truly original oil-painting."

How can any true image of the young Rossetti emerge from such a proliferation of cliché, quotation and footnotes? Or of Holman Hunt, aspiring and receptive before he becomes self-righteously pompous with middle-age? Or of Millais with the flow in his sea-mill upon his head that handsome exterior? Perhaps it is impossible to find anybody who can understand the paintings and the poetry and the personalities of the P.R.B. Giving long descriptions of the subjects of the pictures or counting the drooping perennials in the Campo Santi engravings does not convey the inspiration behind a painter's brush and, with poets, quotation of their verse is essential.

It is a pity: for a study of the movement is needed and Professor Fleming is conscientious in providing a background to the Victorian scene, both social and in the world of art, and he succeeds in building an even balance between the Brothers: he even does his best for Woolner whose sculpture cannot be said to be Pre-Raphaelite (it may could: Munro comes nearer with his garlands of Victorian roses). Incidentally, Munro is here acknowledged from the charge of having revealed the secret of the initials P.R.B., as a reference in the *Literary Gazette* of May 4, 1850, shows that they were privately known. It is also a pity that Professor Fleming also makes the point that the abuse directed at the pictures when they were exhibited was largely due to the fact that Millais, the pet prodigy, had works among them, for the others were totally obscure.

The preface is a frothy affair. In its oddly-accented acknowledgments credits are given to each of the P.R.B.

For the English version of his persuasive book *On Aggression* (1973pp. Methuen. 30s.) Dr. Konrad Lorenz has rewritten some sections (especially Chapter 13, "Evolution of Homo") and has toned down the more vehement expressions of personal feeling. The charm of his writings is well preserved in the admirable and resourceful translation by Marjorie Lutzke. A bibliography and index, lacking in the original German publication (reviewed in these columns September 23, 1965), have now been added.

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EUROPA PUBLICATIONS LIMITED 18 BEDFORD SQUARE LONDON WC1

The *Discipline of the Cave* consists of the first series of Professor Findlay's Gifford Lectures. Their theme is contained under the title of *The Unconscious* in the title of the first lecture, but the first lot of lectures cannot properly be understood except in the light of the second. In a way this must make the task of any intelligent reviewer of the First Series alone a curiously hazardous one. All the same, and by a characteristic paradox, it is in fact possible in explaining the peculiar working of these hazards to give some fairly clear indication of the overall nature of the enterprise.

The first thing to be said about it is that it is on no mean or negligible scale. Its design, says Professor Findlay,

is to sketch the essential pattern of what has been called the human predicament, the night in which we as rational, concerned beings find ourselves, the sorts of thing that come before us at varying removes and distances, and in various guises of reality and unreality, as well as all the varied styles of recognition, appraisal, practical manipulation, etc. in which we show our concern for them and are busy about them, together with our own central evidence as what holds the picture together, and gives it its equivocal, ever shifting sense and interest.

As he rightly adds, "to deal thus with the plight of man is to cover all the main themes of philosophy". In the second place the design is "to explore whatever may be intended in judging and feeling our everyday existence to be a predicament...". So here is at least one living British professional philosopher who has no intention of standing in the dock along with his colleagues to face the common accusations of intellectual dilettantism or of elaborately trivial logic-chopping.

In fact, and though Professor Findlay is very ready to acknowledge the genuine (though in his view one-sided and exaggerated) value of much of what they have done, he deliberately sets himself apart from the great majority of his colleagues not only by the grandeur of his aims but equally by the declared methods of his work. His inspiration is above all Platonic, Husserlian and Hegelian. The discipline of the cave consists in the faithful description and continually revised redescription of the essential features of all that is to be found within it, that is, of the main categorical forms in which or through which the world presents itself to our human understanding. The style and rationale of these descriptions are phenomenological; that is to say, their aim is strictly to present the objects of experience as they present themselves to experience rather than as they may or must really be if some however plausible or powerful theory is correct, but at the same time to present them in terms of their necessary general characteristics rather than in their innumerable contingent particularities. The relations to each other of the successive descriptions and redescriptions are, however, dialectical; that is to say, Professor Findlay tries to show how a description which may be entirely viable and faithful at one level of abstraction, will, when pushed further, break down and demand a total reformulation—a reformulation which may in a sense like account of, but which in no way diminishes the reality of the terms or of the contradictions of the descriptions which the phenomena had earlier forced upon us.

Thus, Professor Findlay's first descriptive concern is with "the phenomena that make up the world of bodies or matter, the phenomena we have for obvious reasons located in the foreground of the cave"; but the description once carried out, he finds that "matter has shown itself to be a fraud, and not merely a change in descriptive orientation but a quest for logical stability turns out to be in another direction". This direction leads to the matter-correlated realm of minds. Here again, however, we find the process repeated, with the world of separate minds or egos dissolving into the same sort of antinomic instability as that in which bodies had foundered. The stage is set for the ascent to a yet higher level of description, whose framework is to be that of a "rational conscious activity, which aims primarily at perpetuating and maintaining and enriching itself, and ultimately at becoming clearly conscious that it is itself its own aim and the aim of all other things". This is the breakdown in its turn of even this Hegelian perspective—whose solution may ultimately provide, it appears, some glimpse of a world altogether beyond the cave of our human predicament, a world which the mystics may have seen, but which may remain resistant to any conceptual grip that we may try to get upon it. And only then, when we have understood where the incoherences of bodies and of minds will have led us, will we be able to look back with adequate understanding upon the paradoxical nature of these nevertheless indispensably real furnishings of the cave that is our only human home.

The present first half of this ambitious programme is carried out with Professor Findlay's own characteristic panache and rich fertility both of stylistic and of philosophic invention. To many of his more sober-minded (or more pedestrian?) colleagues he will remain a maddening writer, a man of not easily comparable gifts of intelligence, learning and imagination and with vivid powers of communication, but also a man of willful disregard for the detail that one knows he could provide if only he would be bothered, of an almost arrogant tolerance for the incomplete or outworn argument that he himself would have been fierce to scorn if it had told against rather than for his general case, of an almost more aggressive than implied determination to be different and to shock. Professor Findlay is not a fashionable writer in terms of current British academic fashion and is clearly resolved to be unfashionable on the grand scale. But then, it must surely be admitted, his scale is in the end a grand one in the best sense of the word. Whatever the Second Series may bring, we may be grateful that the University of St. Andrews invited a man of such rich resources to deliver its Gifford Lectures for the greater stimulus of his bearers and subsequent readers.

Esays by *Diverse Hands*, the transactions of the Royal Society of Literature, new series, Volume XXXIV, is edited by L. P. Hartley and published by the Oxford University Press (1966, 21s.). Among other lectures are Robert Blake on "The Novelists' Responsibility", L. P. Hartley on "The Novelists' Responsibility", and Sir Alan Harbert on "Literature and the State".

SUNDAY MIRROR
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The *Aurora Consurgens* is a medieval text which suggests a mystical experience and which is remarkable for the way in which its imagery derives partly from the Bible, especially from the Song of Songs and the Supper of the Eucharist, and partly from various alchemical treatises. Its editor was a close professional associate of C. G. Jung and the text, which, with translation and copious footnotes, occupies 100-odd pages, is accompanied by a 250-page analysis of the psychological processes conjectured to be at work in its composition. The edition is presented as a companion-piece to Jung's *Mysterium Coniunctionis* and it illustrates in detail the working of his major hypotheses.

The text is certainly curious. It exists in six manuscripts, all of them apparently from the fifteenth century, was printed once in 1625 and was suppressed by Conrad Waldkirch on the grounds that it "profaned the Christian mysteries by applying them to alchemy". He did however print in the *Ars Aurea* what appears to have been a commentary appended to the *Aurora* as its second part and which is not included in the present edition.

The *Aurora* itself consists of five introductory chapters which centre on the notion of Wisdom, followed by seven parables, each of which begins with a quotation from scripture or from a breviary antiphon and continues, apparently by free association, to draw on a whole catena of scripture texts and alchemical allusions. Each parable, Dr. von Franz notes, begins with a *nigredo* and moves towards an *albedo*, the reconciliation of opposites denoted by the alchemical symbols. In style and cadence the Latin constitutes a pastiche of the breviary. If the experience behind the text was one of "impassioned elation", the alchemical images and quotations suggest that it has to be distinguished from the experiences described in more orthodox terminology of Christian mysticism.

On the other hand, the imagery is far too highly organized and con-

sistent to suggest any sort of schizophrenic dissociation. When the beloved of Solomon "that cometh forth as the morning rising" is identified with the Queen of the South, the author is at least conscious of the paradox. "This is Wisdom, namely the Queen of the South, who is said to have come from the east...". It may well be true, as Dr. von Franz suggests, that the function of the alchemical references which complement the biblical paraphrase is to provide a more comprehensive symbol of the self "uniting the opposites Christ and Anti-Christ" that orthodox Christian imagery allows for. And in this case the text may well represent an experience in which the unconscious plays an unusually active role, to some unusual extent breaking through the threshold of consciousness.

Jung himself, of course, elaborated the symbolic parallel between Christ and the alchemical *lapis*, so that the philosophical *opus* seemed like "a parallel and imitation—perhaps even a continuation—of the divine work of redemption" (*Psychology and Alchemy*), and Dr. von Franz in her commentary forces this parallel a little more than the text will bear. Most of the references to the stone are confined to the fifth parable, and the association of Wisdom with the stone from the beginning rests largely on the very tenuous evidence for identifying Aliphidius with Aspidius, it seems tendencies, too, to translate "recte operantibus" by "for them that rightly perform the Work" in a context which does not clearly demand a reference to alchemy.

The commentary is, indeed, unlikely to convince those who do not already find Jung's views acceptable, and Dr. von Franz, in her desire to recapitulate as much general Jungian theory as possible, continuously makes assumptions which will be unquestioned only by adepts. The interpretation of the experience behind the composition of the *Aurora* is accordingly weakened, both by long digressions on the influence of the unconscious on various

aspects of the medieval alchemical cosmos, and by statements such as:

"Sapientia Dei seems to have been a goal towards which the unconscious achieves a clear conceptual grasp, the cosmos, and by statements such as: 'The unconscious is the source of the creative process'."

There seems indeed little above the streets and houses. What said Dr. von Franz's testimony of seeing London? For, unrepresentative view that the pigeons, he can come down taken seriously, which has among the crowds. He tells us, little acceptable. He takes special pleasure in the publication of the *Unconscious* in 1957. Someone may have in London, in the stillness in the dawn what Aquinas said of the "mist of noise, in the solitude in talking in ecstasy", but Jung's mist of noise, it is, perhaps, cult to see why he should be surprised that in his title he should lapse from biblical imagery to Dunbar's joyous "flower of life, alchemical symbolism, the *lapis*". For, as he looks back over his *Aurora* was certainly a dark, dark and dangerous hovering at the non-technical, knowledge of the threshold of his home in youth, and not treatises and processes to him the two wars came almost as a confession of death-bed terror from "the sordid squalor" of for the great was a "fountainhead". But what could be more industry of edification, in the early morning to pick nivola more than 100 years. *Unconscious*: that does, he says, show "the tains no quotation from any penetration of country things right later than Albertus Magnus through the huge urban county".

overwhelming probability is: Ha breaks the monotony of the even if it was composed in the frows of small houses, all alike, in the twentieth century, it was written throwing open the doors of half a with the known fact that the *Aurora* was written in the streets of London. Jung himself thought it was a show the variety of the inhabitant's within. He has a fine array of fourteenth-century text which is a resonant metaphor. To bin the new buildings, rising to shut in St. Paul's, like a degradation of dragons closing round Andromeda". Beatrice and Sydney Webb he sees in the Fabian Society "like Scylla and Charybdis threatening all comers with their fanged statistics". But it was Scylla which threatened with rocks, Charybdis was a whirlpool. Which is Beatrice and which Sydney? For his solitude in the midst of crowds his best is the story of the Greek scholar walking with him, oblivious of the traffic as he talked of Aeschylus, and so carried away by a chorus of the *Agamemnon* that he rose on the wings of song as

PETER SCHNEIDER: *Sweeter than Honey*. Christian Presence and Judaism. 196pp. SCM Press. 15s.

The first of these two books is a curious work which will satisfy whom it will. The author announces that his purpose is to limit himself to the history of the God of the Bible. He therefore expressly excludes any attention to "Buddhism, Hinduism or even the religion of Islam", and states that the documentation for his book has been sought within the tradition of the Bible. This, however, he proposes to supplement by further tradition and archaeology. By this further tradition he means fanciful rabbinical legends first created more than a thousand years after the latest period he deals with in his book. By archaeology he means one or two things which are either unrelated to the Bible or on the very fringe of its story.

His first chapter is on the God of the Old Testament as represented in the cave of Tuc d'Audoubert and in the religion of the aborigines of Australia. This is followed by a chapter on the pre-biblical God of Mesopotamians and Egyptians. The author then comes to the biblical story from the Creation to Moses, but with no effort to relate the previous chapters in this story. This Mesopotamian and Egyptian background of the Bible story is undeniable, and serious modern study seeks to understand how far Israel's beliefs and practices were coloured by, and how far they differed from, those of their neighbours—including more especially their Canaanite neighbours, of whom we now know as much more than we did from the Ras Shamra discoveries, which do not figure among the author's archaeological sources. But none of this is seriously attempted by the author.

There is little penetration of the profound religious meaning of the biblical stories examined, but rather a superficial, almost superficial, treatment of the material. The author's

story, such as that at the Creation the stones quarrelled to determine which of them should serve as Jacob's pillow. We are also rather remarkably told that fire promised not to devour Daniel—where the God who fused Daniel with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego! Many pages are devoted to an account of Abraham's life in Ur, based on the work of Sir Leonard Woolley, embellished by more rabbinical legends. Yet Ur figures in the story of Abraham simply in the statement that he left it—and many recent writers, both Jewish and Christian, would dissociate Abraham from Woolley's Ur altogether.

The author quotes some Hebrew words, but to judge from his representation of the first personal pronoun in Hebrew as "Anah", and "one" as "ehad", and some other errors, either his or his translator's acquaintance with Hebrew would appear to be slender. It is doubtful if *The God of the Beginnings* will contribute materially to the healing of the spiritual malaise of the modern world, to which the author aspires to contribute.

Sweeter than Honey is a work of far greater penetration and Christian Presence books which seek to evaluate anew the place and function of the Christian Church in relation to the Christian-Jewish relationship. It is a special poignancy, since the author is a Jew, that the Old Testament and the one's matrix from which the other arose, yet great bitterness and grievous persecution have deeply divided the two communities. The author of this volume briefly reviews the history of Jewish-Christian relations and the anti-semitism which has been fostered by Christian theologians and leaders, and which in our lifetime reached its deadly climax in Nazi Germany. He

is at pains to bring out the difference between ancient and medieval attitudes and the anti-semitism of Hitler, and places the responsibility for it on the Church of today. The author's own view is that the Church of today is too far from the spirit of the New Testament to be able to help to Hitler's victims. He is too far from the spirit of the New Testament to be able to help to Hitler's victims. He is too far from the spirit of the New Testament to be able to help to Hitler's victims.

Two of the most noteworthy trends in subsequent chapters dealing with major industrial groups—engineering and allied industries, chemical and food production, clothing and other manufacturing industries. It has long been known that many London firms are linked to other local concerns within the same industry by actual interchange of partly manufactured products and components. In these sections, Dr. Martin views this taking-in of other firms' waste, and the production of tailor-made parts for other firms, as basic factors explaining the spatial association of many metropolitan industries. The remainder of the book discusses, among other topics, recent trends in manufacturing (a section necessitated in part by the use of 1954 data for the earlier analysis), the character of industry in London's famous New Towns (a section contributed by C. M. Brown), and the similarity between London's industrial geography and that of other "world cities".

Range of topics is matched by variety of source material. Unpublished Local Authority and Ministry of Labour employment statistics, London Traffic Survey figures, published histories of individual firms, and actual interviews with businessmen, all provide grist for Dr. Martin's mill. However, though in principle highly commendable, the bringing together of this range and

JOSEPH S. FLETCHER: *London's River*. Illustrated by the author. 112pp. Hutchinson. 30s.

The New London Spy. A Discreet Guide to the City's Pleasures. Edited by Hunter Davies. 296pp. Anthony Blond. 30s.

RUPERT HALL: *The Abbey Scientists*. The Memoirs of Westminster Abbey. 72pp. Roger and Rupert Nicholson. 7s. 6d.

Mr. Church revives an old word in that time was striving to be a "flower of cities". He has planned this book, he says, to convey of Aristotle and his "flower of cities" plans its light. The poet's "flower of cities" is a "flower of cities" plan. Then Lewis Carroll put in *Jabberwocky*, and gave it a new name of life. So from Carroll, transcribing the piece of *Jabberwocky*, to Humphrey Dunphy telling us, as he tells us, that it meant to go round and round, and now to Mr. Church, in its historical assumption, its domestic circles with the pigeon. There seems indeed little above the streets and houses. What said Dr. von Franz's testimony of seeing London? For, unrepresentative view that the pigeons, he can come down taken seriously, which has among the crowds.

Mr. Fletcher drawing and writing go hand in hand, and he is a little too much inclined to complete his picture with words. In this book what he misses is the colour. In his *London's River* he fills in with words the sunset which, he says, was there when he drew it, and he tells us of the flowers which he could not include in his drawing of the twelfth. Yet his drawings at their best can exist in their own right without colours.

His attraction is in his surprises. He can tell us of the only public lavatory which has gargoyles, and of another with a mosaic floor good enough, he thinks, for a Roman villa. He remembers ice-cream barrows with pictures on them of waterfalls and roses. One evening he was locked in Lambeth Parish Church and had the greatest difficulty in getting a passer-by to fetch a policeman. Others had hurried past in fear of this figure in the dusk at the church window. Now he wonders why he never thought of tolling the bell. He condemns the modern street traffic in five curt words: "It is eating up London", and then directs us to the journey by train which, he says, can still be made, as in his golden Victorian age, from Broad Street to Richmond, through stations "rich with unused waiting-rooms, superannuated gas-lamps and broken windows".

What, one wonders, would Ned Ward think of Mr. Hunter Davies and his twenty-eight contributors who have borrowed his title and added to it "A Discreet Guide to the City's Pleasures"? His own purpose, he had said, was "to scourge vice and villainy". He would cer-

tainly object that the new spies (who include among their pleasures watching the dawn-and-dawns) should accuse him of finding pleasure in a woman being whipped. Had he not said that he thought it better to rely in the middle of the shipping and that "such punishment can never reclaim them"? The new spies have been very generous in leaving out no music, no theatres (except the open air theatre), no sport. By doing this, they say, they have been able "to go for the pleasures which haven't been charted before—from sea to sea". They give sixteen pages to churches and galleries, and the editor chides an enthusiastic contributor to write of both. Sixteen pages, by comparison with the other sections, are generous measure. Were they given because the editor was already proposing to give thirty to sex? These thirty are divided between London Prositutions, Homosexual London and Lesbian London. But though they are part of a "guide to pleasure", the chapter on prostitution is quite enough to make it as much a warning as a guide.

Ned Ward, as the new spies point out, visited Westminster Abbey, and he described what he saw there in a passage which Professor Hall might have quoted at the beginning of his book on the scientists who have entered the Abbey with their enclosures. The Abbey, he says, was a "free miners" exercising customary rights, and the impact of the industry upon the woods was intensified when blast furnaces came into use. Then inhabitants of the forest had customary rights to pannage, house-bote and the like, and besides constant conflicts between the interests of these commoners and those of timber production, there was, as Dr. Hall remarks in his chapter on the early seventeenth century, "much litigation between inhabitants anxious to substantiate their claims and outsiders eager to intrude".

The administration of the forest seems to have been always very complicated. Corruption abounded and the tasks of those concerned were made more involved by royal grants and leases. Indeed the greater part of the history might well be summarized—in the words of an official report of 1788—as "a perpetual struggle of jarring interests, in which no party could improve his share without hurting that of another". The remuneration of the officials consisted largely of perquisites established by ancient custom and (as appears from the same report) some of these were automatically increased if the officials committed abuses it was their duty to prevent. For example, the deputy surveyor received the tops of all stolen timber. Offences had long been numerous

volume of material has clearly in practice presented the author with a most difficult task. The resultant compression of ideas and facts, evident in sections of densely packed statistics, brief historical examples, and numerous references (the bank notes), does not make for easy reading. Another, rather different, criticism might be made of the stress placed on industrial linkage in explaining the spatial association of particular industries. Though its importance in defining the relatively close-knit clothing and furniture "quarters" of inner London has elsewhere been conclusively established by Dr. Martin himself, recent work suggests that local linkage is of only limited significance to most suburban firms. Spatial association of different industries in London's suburbs probably therefore reflects other factors more, such as the availability of certain kinds of labour.

These criticisms aside, however, Dr. Martin's book represents one of the most thorough and interesting studies in industrial geography to appear in recent years. As an illustration of the value of new statistical techniques in analysing human geographical distributions as a complement of ideas and information on London's industrial geography, and as a contribution to the study of urban spatial structure, *Greater London: An Industrial Geography* should reach a wide audience.

Greater London: An Industrial Geography. 292pp. G. Bell. 37s. 6d.

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A history of the woodland contained within the Forest of Dean is bound to be complicated, even if, like Dr. Hart's volume, it is a professional study. From the dawn of the story to the present day conflicting interests have been involved, and these interests have themselves been modified and transformed from time to time. Royal interest in the forest as a hunting ground was predominant in the central Middle Ages, but appears to have languished in the fourteenth and subsequent centuries and, after a brief renaissance under James I, has dwindled to nothing. We hear of timber from these woods for "the King's galleys", as early as 1241, but it was only in the seventeenth century that the Navy became seriously concerned with Dean as a source of supply, and its importance for naval purposes—varying with the condition of the trees, the costs of transport and the sales of dockyards and leading in 1802 to an inspection of the forest by Nelson himself—virtually ceased with the triumph of the iron ship.

Iron-working, again, was for centuries an important element in the economy of the forest and one that impinged upon its other elements through the charcoal-burning which provided fuel for the forges, while in the thirteenth century its products were combined with those of the woodlands to provide material for a large-scale manufacture of quirels for cross-bows which was carried on at St. Brimley. Although there were some royal forges, the iron-working was largely in the hands of "free miners" exercising customary rights, and the impact of the industry upon the woods was intensified when blast furnaces came into use. Then inhabitants of the forest had customary rights to pannage, house-bote and the like, and besides constant conflicts between the interests of these commoners and those of timber production, there was, as Dr. Hall remarks in his chapter on the early seventeenth century, "much litigation between inhabitants anxious to substantiate their claims and outsiders eager to intrude".

The balances of the book is rather odd. More than 100 pages are devoted to the seventeenth century but only forty to the period 1800-1965, and a serious defect in the treatment of the present century is the lack of data regarding the economic aspects of the forest management. In contrast to the multitudinous figures of prices provided for the Middle Ages the reader is supplied with little beyond general assertions about the greater "profitableness" of conifers. This is particularly regrettable because there has been much loose thinking about the finance of afforestation since the Forestry Commissioners in their report on postwar policy estimated a 3 per cent return on their proposed outlay to be both possible and satisfactory, but made no allowance for the cost of making the 2,000 miles of road they considered desirable—because this was something on which the Government could provide employment for the unemployed.

Yet one must not forget that Dr. Hart's history includes the texts of a number of important documents and is enriched with a number of charming photographs.

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ROBBING THE THIEF

LEONID LEONOV: For. 579pp. Moscow: Moskovski Rabochi. Distributed by Collet's, 15s.
LEONID LEONOV: The Russian Forest. 719pp. Moscow: Progress Publishers. Distributed by Central Books, 21s.

When Leonov's *The Thief* first came out in 1927, it was subtitled "A novel of contemporary life", and justifiably, for it is a fascinating document of the times. The hero Dmitry Vekshin, a Commissar in the Red Army during the Civil War, has been demoralized by his return to civilian life with its apparent glorification of the bourgeois values that he had just been fighting to overthrow and for all. Rejecting this travesty of socialism, he goes underground and becomes a thief, in protest against a Revolution that has sold its soul. Although sympathetic to his hero, Leonov does not idealize him. He sees the black spots in his character, his arrogance and callousness, bred and fostered by his criminal existence, and he also tries to reconcile his often outrageous behaviour with the values of independence and courage that he represents, implying that it is a poor sort of communism that can make no use of them. The novel ends with a tentative suggestion that Vekshin may yet be reclaimed by a course of physical labour and further education.

The unflattering portrayal of communists, the incoherence values proclaimed and the refusal to accept any easy solution aroused a storm of controversy and the book was eventually suppressed after some four editions had come out. In 1959 it was substantially revised, but Leonov made no attempt to bring the book up to date or even to provide a sequel. It has kept the narrative framework intact, but the interpretation is now completely different. Vekshin is treated simply as a bandit, without a single redeeming feature. The earlier optimistic ending is now brushed aside scornfully. The new *For* is a dispiriting book because it has nothing to offer in place of a serious paradox but a hefty truisim.

Some indication of the processes that led to this sad result can be detected in *The Russian Forest* (1950-53), first published soon after the death of Stalin. It was this book which finally established Leonov's

reputation in his own country and in 1957 he was awarded a Lenin prize for literature, the first of its kind. In nearly every respect, however, it compares unfavourably with the novels that Leonov produced in the 1920s and 1930s.

This translation from a Moscow publishing house is the first complete one in English, but it cannot really be recommended. The translator has aimed no higher than a literal accuracy, and the result is this sort of soulless no-man's language:

"Let your heart's thumping like mad? Drink it in, it happens once in a lifetime! Polya's young mentor whispered hoily behind her.

The glossary of Chief Characters is certainly of assistance, but it goes far beyond mere identification even to the point of indicating "gods" and "buddies". English readers do not need to be spoonfed in this way. Nor, in fairness to Leonov, is his novel as schematic as the glossary makes it sound.

SOVSEX

YUJI DANIEL (NIKOLAI ARZHAK): *The Man from M.J.S.P.* Translated by M. V. Nesterov. 48pp. Flegou Press.

This "First Ever Soviet Sex Story" as the publishers term it, is a pretty feeble affair. The description itself is misleading: sex may rear its ugly head in a tame sort of way, but the story veers between the satirical and the farcical. The style (as rendered in M. V. Nesterov's translation) is banal, the jokes laboured, the presentation of the book poor. The much shorter "Hands" which fills the last eight pages has a grisly setting and a neat twist, but is hardly striking except to the sociologically-slanted eye. Mr. Daniel was of course one of the victims of the disgraceful Moscow trial last February. The present publication does not do him much service, though it makes it seem more senseless than ever that he should have been so cruelly and weightily repressed.

MICROCOSMONAUTS

CLAUDE MAURICAC: *L'Orb*. 238pp. Paris: Grasset, 15fr.
ALAIN JOUFFROY: *Le Temps d'un*. 251pp. Paris: Gallimard, 15fr.

More and more it is the fashion in these alienated days for French novels to come complete with resident novelists, whose function it is to remind us that what we are reading is a representation and not reality. Claude Mauriac, one of the most alert and lucid of structuralists, is consistently doffing his mask in *L'Orb* to tell us, among other helpful things, that his obsession and hence his theme is Time.

His new novel owes a lot to Michel Buiot and *L'Emploi du temps*. It comes into existence because something has been forgotten, or repressed, and the reader's task is to play the analyst and decide what this something is, since the novelists is too guilty ever to admit it directly to himself. The machinery of confession is set in motion by a woman whom the narrator meets at a party and who claims to have once been an intimate friend, though he has absolutely no recollection of her. He tries to find a name for her from among his stock of conquests, and settles for Menou, though the former-named reader might have preferred Mennighe, since her function is to release the memory and create a work of art. On the stimulus, his one provided mechanically into the consciousness, some more instantly than others, though all of them demand equally to be explained, both in their nature and their continuity.

M. Mauriac links his book as an "Intellectual detective story", and we have his word for it that there is only one possible solution. *L'Orb* in fact is an elegant new *roman à l'enigme*. Intended for the recreation of that active New Reader, home made to a group of like-minded friends, known as "Les Treize", whose Christian names look familiar even though the rest has been sup-

pressed—Samuel, Alain, Nathalie, Michel, &c. Number Fifteen, it seems, is out to steal their plans from them, but M. Mauriac fulfils him, since the key to his new novel is safe behind his portrait of Mme. Roland. All that the thief achieves is to create disorder and that, as we should by this time know, merely means a different sort of order.

Although Alain Jouffroy also discusses some of his principles of literary creation in *Le Temps d'un* five they remain very much more mysterious than those of M. Mauriac. This is another novel that sets out to be true to the mind and not to life. Its massively long first sentence leads inwards from the mighty metropolis—Paris—to the tiny brain-metropolis—Paris. Having established his starting point, M. Jouffroy, the bold microcosmonaut, sets off on a difficult voyage of initiation, which involves a certain amount of fun down among the archetypes.

What seems to concern the narrator most is that a book, as normally constituted, imposes a false order and immobility on the shifting spectacle of life, and that we cannot live and write about it at the same time. The answer, it seems, is not to make a book out of life but to make a life out of a book. The mirror which evis the writer off from the real world ultimately gets smashed in *Le Temps d'un* and, as a coincidence is mysteriously consummated. M. Jouffroy's message seems to be one of an all-embracing love and acceptance, since he refuses to turn contingency into rigidity, but it is darkly conveyed. "I write and things follow me," says the narrator at one point, but in this they may well have the advantage of the reader.

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